

LANDMARKS IN AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL POLICY:  
SUPPLY MANAGEMENT, DEMAND EXPANSION,  
AND RURAL POVERTY\*

Edited By

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The entries presented in this paper were selected from Chronological Landmarks in American Agriculture (USDA, Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 425, Washington, D.C., May 1979). Examination of this publication suggested that separation of the chronological landmarks by subject matter would provide a concise history of the subject matter. In addition, since each landmark contained a bibliographical citation, a useful bibliography would be compiled.

This paper specifically presents the landmarks in American agricultural policy concerning supply management, demand expansion, and rural poverty. Beginning with 1929, this subject area represents the results of continual bargaining between consumer and producer interests over food prices. As such, it provides a barometer of public attitudes towards agriculture. Analysis of the entries over time suggests the following conclusions:

1. Recognition of the consumer's stake in agricultural policy has grown over time.
2. Surplus disposal programs, both domestic and export, have been associated with periods of surplus production.
3. Rural poverty concerns were directed at farm ownership until World War II. It then dropped from the national agenda until the 1960's. As part of the Great Society, this concern became indistinguishable from the war on urban poverty. That is, it was aimed at industrial as opposed to farm employment.
4. Nutrition as opposed to hunger did not become a national concern until the 1970's.
5. Supply management programs have over time become oriented towards helping the farmer market his crop in private channels and towards reducing the role of the government as a buyer of farm products.

In other words, crop loans have become less oriented toward price support and more oriented toward cash flow needs.

6. Government has during recent years either directly or indirectly encouraged the growth of private self-help (Soybean Association, beef checkoff, etc.). These organizations have invested substantial funds in expanding domestic and export demand for agricultural products, thereby reducing government involvement.

1929, June. The Federal Farm Board was established. (George McGovern. Agricultural Thought in the Twentieth Century. Indianapolis, Ind.: The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Inc., 1967. 570 pp., index.)

1930. The estimated average equity of farm operators in the land they farmed was 41 percent.

1930, February 10. The Grain Stabilization Corporation was chartered under the auspices of the Federal Farm Board. (Clara Eliot. The Farmer's Campaign for Credit. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1927. 312 pp., index.)

1930, June 5. The Cotton Stabilization Corporation was chartered under the auspices of the Federal Farm Board. (Frieda Baird and Claude I. Benner. Ten Years of Federal Intermediate Credit. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1933. 416 pp., illus., diagrams, index.)

1932. Laws were approved on March 7 and July 5 for the distribution of Government-owned wheat and cotton to needed and distressed people by the American Red Cross. (Josephine Chapin Brown. Public Relief 1929-1939. New York: Holt & Co., 1940. 524 pp., tables, diagrams, index.)

1932, April. The Wisconsin Cooperative Milk Pool was incorporated to dramatize the farmers' plight. (A. William Hoglund, "Wisconsin Dairy Farmers on Strike," Agricultural History 35: 24-34. Jan. 1961.)

1933, May 12. The Agricultural Adjustment Administration was established. (Edwin G. Nourse, and others. Three Years of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1937. 600 pp., index.)

1933, May 12. The Emergency Farm Mortgage Act was approved. (Norman J. Wall, "Credit Facilities for Agriculture Greatly Improved by New Laws," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1935, pp. 159-163.)

1933, May 12. The Agricultural Adjustment Act was approved. (Van L. Perkins. Crisis in Agriculture. Univ. of Calif. Pub. in History. Vol. 81. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 1962. 245 pp., notes, biblio., index.)

1933, May 27. The Farm Credit Administration was established as an independent agency. It became part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture on July 1, 1939. It again became an independent agency on December 4, 1953. (Alvin S. Tostlebe. Capital in Agriculture: Its Formation and Financing Since 1870. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1957. 232 pp., index.)

1933, June 16. The Farm Credit Act, providing for the reorganization of agricultural credit activities, was passed. (Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. The Coming of the New Deal. Boston, Mass.: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1959. 669 pp., index.)

1933, August 17. California's first marketing agreement affecting canning peaches, a nonbasic crop, became effective. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Agricultural Adjustment . . . May 1933 to February 1934. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1934. 393 pp.)

1933, October 4. The Federal Surplus Relief Corporation was established to carry on diversion of agricultural commodities for relief purposes. (Joseph Stancliffe Davis. Wheat and the AAA. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1935. 468 pp., index.)

1933, October 4. The Farm Credit Administration requested the Governor of each State to establish a committee to attempt the conciliation of excessive and distressed farm debts. (H.C.M. Case, "Farm Debt Adjustment During the Early 1930's," Agricultural History 34:173-181. Oct. 1960.)

1933, October 17. The Commodity Credit Corporation was established. (Robert L. Tontz, "Legal Parity: Implementation of the Policy of Equality for Agriculture, 1929-1954," Agricultural History 29:174-181. Oct. 1955.)

1934, January 31. The Federal Farm Mortgage Act was approved. (Gladys L. Baker, "Farm Problems and Programs." In: Farm Index U.S. Dept. Agr., Washington D.C.: GPO, 1975, pp. 3-8.)

1934, February 23. The Crop Production Loan Act was passed to provide loans to farmers for crop production and harvesting (48 Stat. 354.)

1934, April 1. The rural rehabilitation program was initiated by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. (W. W. Alexander, "Overcrowded Farms," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1940: 870-886.)

1934, April 21. The Bankhead Cotton Control Act was approved. (Henry I. Richards. Cotton and the AAA. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1936. 389 pp., index.)

1934, May 9. The Jones-Costigan Sugar Act became law. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Production and Marketing Administration. The United States Sugar Program. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Inf. Bull. No. 111. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1953. 34 pp.)

1934, June 28. The Kerr-Smith Tobacco Control Act was approved. (Harold B. Rowe. Tobacco Under the AAA. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1935. 317 pp., app., index.)

1935. Tenants operated 42 percent of the farms in the United States as compared with the 1880 figure of 25 percent. (John D. Black and R. H. Allen, "The Growth of Farm Tenancy in the United States," Quarterly Journal of Economics 51:393-425, May 1937.)

1935. The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 was amended to provide for marketing agreements and orders, rather than licenses, for milk. (John D. Black. The Dairy Industry and the AAA. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1935. 520 pp., apps., index.)

1935. Federal assistance for school lunch programs was provided by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Loans had been made by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to several towns for payment of labor required to prepare and serve school lunches during 1932 and 1933. (H. M. Southworth and M. I. Klaymen. The School Lunch Program and Agricultural Surplus Disposal. U.S. Pub. No. 467. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1941. 66 pp., illus.)

1935. The estimated average equity of farm operators in the land they farmed was 39 percent.

1935, March 18. The De Rouen Rice Act was approved. (Edwin G. Nourse, and others. Three Years of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1937. 600 pp., index.)

1935, April 30. The Resettlement Administration was established and became a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture on January 1, 1937. In 1937, it was redesignated the Farm Security Administration. Its present name, Farmers Home Administration, was adopted in 1946. (James A. Munger, "Borrowing Money to Purchase Land," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1958, pp. 218-229.)

1935, August 24. Amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act included both a provision (Section 32) appropriating an amount equal to 30 percent of customs receipts to encourage domestic consumption and exportation of agricultural commodities and a provision authorizing the use of marketing orders. (Edwin G. Nourse and others. Three Years of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1937. 600 pp., apps., index.)

1936, January 6. The Agricultural Adjustment Act was invalidated by the Hoosac Mills decision of the U.S. Supreme Court. (Paul L. Murphy, "The New Deal Agricultural Program and the Constitution," Agricultural History 29:160-169. Oct. 1955.)

1936, February 29. The Congress passed the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act as a substitute measure for the Agricultural Adjustment Act. (F. F. Elliott, "Agricultural Conservation--An Aspect of Land Utilization," Journal of Farm Economics 13:3-27. Feb. 1937.)

1936, June. Pacific Northwest Fruits, Inc., was formed, bringing together all cooperatives into one grower-owned and -controlled organization with specific aims. (Joseph W. Ellison, "Marketing Problems of Northwestern Apples, 1929-1940," Agricultural History 16:103-115. Jan. 1942.)

1937, June 3. The Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act was approved authorizing marketing agreements and orders and regulating imports of certain commodities under these orders. (Donald M. Rubel and Budd A. Holt, "Marketing Agreements," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1954, pp. 357-363.)

1937, June 28. The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation was placed in the U.S. Department of Agriculture and was authorized to purchase and donate surplus commodities.

1937, September 1. The Sugar Act, replacing the Jones-Costigan Sugar Act, was approved. (U.S. Congress. House Committee on Agriculture. The United States Sugar Program. 87th Cong., 2d Sess. Committee Print. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1971. 72 pp.)

1937, September 1. The Resettlement Administration was renamed the Farm Security Administration. The Secretary of Agriculture directed that functions relating to the land utilization program be transferred to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. (Sidney Baldwin. Poverty and Politics: The Rise and Decline of the Farm Security Administration. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1968. 438 pp., index.)

1938, February 16. The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 provided for farm price support and adjustment programs based upon an "ever-normal granary" concept. It replaced and invalidated the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933. (Philip M. Glick. "The Soil and the Law," Journal of Farm Economics 20:430-447. May 1938. Continuation of article, 20:616-640. Aug. 1938.)

1939. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced a major expansion of the school lunch program to better meet the needs of poor school children.

1939, March 13. The Food Stamp Program was formally announced as an experimental program by Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace and the chairman of the National Food and Grocery Conference Committee. (Joseph D. Cappock, "The Food Stamp Plan, Moving Surplus Commodities with Special Purpose Money," Transactions of the American Philosophical Society 37:131-199. May 1947.)

1939, May 16. The First Food Stamp Plan was inaugurated in Rochester, New York. (Milo Perkins, "Thirty Million Customers for the Surplus," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1940, pp. 650-655.)

1940, May. A Cotton Stamp Plan was inaugurated in Memphis, Tennessee, but remained only regional. (Dixon Wecter. The Age of the Great Depression 1929-1941. New York, N.Y.: The Macmillan Co., 1948. 434 pp., index.)



1940, May 28. A school penny-milk program under Section 32 of amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act was approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. (Russell E. Moffett and others. The School Milk Program: Experience, Effects and Possible Changes. A Northeast Regional Research Publication. Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station. Storrs, Conn.: The University of Connecticut, Nov. 1961. 34 pp.)

1940, June 30. The Surplus Marketing Administration was established. (Gladys L. Baker, "And To Act For The Secretary": Paul H. Appleby And The Department of Agriculture, 1933-1940," Agricultural History 45: 235-253. Oct 1971.)

1941, May 26. The Congress raised price supports for major agricultural commodities to 85 percent of parity through loans on the crops. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Commodity Credit Corporation. Summary of 30 Years' Operations of the Commodity Credit Corporation with Report of the President of Commodity Credit Corporation, 1964. Washington, D.C.: GPO, May 1965. 80 pp.)

1941, July 1. The Steagall Amendment provided for price supports for expansion of production of nonbasic agricultural commodities. (Murray Thompson, "The Search for Parity," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1962, pp. 543-556.)

1942, February 23. U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service and the Surplus Marketing Administration were merged under the Agricultural Marketing Administration.

1942, April-May. The Cotton Stamp Plan operations were suspended. (L. D. Howell, "Cotton Surplus Disposal Programs," Journal of Farm Economics 26:273-291. May 1944.)

1942, April 13. The sugar quota system was suspended. The wartime suspension of the sugar quota system was terminated on November 28, 1947. (Roy A. Ballinger. A History of Sugar Marketing. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., AER No. 197. Washington, D.C.: GPO, Feb. 1971. 126 pp.)

1942, December 5. Agricultural marketing programs were consolidated under the Food Distribution Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

1943, March 1. Food Stamp Plan operations were suspended.

1945. Rate of farm tenancy reached the lowest level since 1910, while farmers' equities almost doubled in value between 1940 and 1945. (W. W. Wilcox. The Farmer in the Second World War. Ames, Ia.: Iowa State College Press, 1947. 410 pp., index.)

1946, June 4. The National School Lunch Act, which authorized assistance to States through grants-in-aid and other means in establishing nonprofit school lunch programs, was approved. (Marvin M. Sandstrom, "School Lunches," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1959, pp. 691-700.)

1946, December 31. Presidential proclamation of cessation of World War II hostilities resulted 2 years later in the expiration of price supports for major farm commodities at 90 percent of parity unless renewed by new legislation.

1947, September 25. The Citizens Food Committee was appointed by President Truman to advise on food conservation. (Allen J. Matusow. Farm Policies and Politics in the Truman Years. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1967. 267 pp., index.)

1948, July 3. The Agricultural Act of 1948 was approved. (H. C. M. Case, "The Agricultural Act of 1948," Journal of Farm Economics 31:227-236. 1949.)

1948, December 31. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's obligation under the Steagall amendment to support specified nonbasic commodities at 90 percent of parity was terminated.

1949, October 31. The Agricultural Act of 1949 incorporated the principle of flexible price support and provided a change in the parity formula. It also provided, through Section 416, for additional domestic disposition of surplus agricultural commodities for donations to needy persons abroad through U.S. voluntary relief organizations. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Farm Commodity and Related Programs. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Stabilization and Conservation Serv., Agr. Hndbk. No. 345. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1967. 150 pp.)

1950, June 3. The President's Commission on Migratory Labor was established by Executive Order 10129. (Ellis W. Hawley, "The Politics of the Mexican Labor Issue, 1950-1965," Agricultural History 40:157-176. July 1966.)

1953. The Council on Economic and Cultural Affairs was set up. It was reincorporated as the Agricultural Development Council, Inc., in November 1963. It was supported by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and John D. Rockefeller, III. (A. H. Moseman and F. F. Hill, "Private Foundations and Organizations," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1964, pp. 523-534.)

1954. The National Wool Act supported prices to encourage domestic production. (Alex D. Angelidis, "Our Agricultural Imports," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1964, pp. 370-374).

1954, July 10. The Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (Public law 480) revised Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 to encourage export of price-supported commodities to nations unable to make purchases on the world market and to aid agricultural improvement in developing nations. (Peter A Toma. The Politics of Food for Peace. Tucson, Ariz.: The University of Arizona Press, 1967. 195 pp., index.)

1954, August 28. The Special School Milk Program was established under the Agricultural Act of 1954 which provided authority for use of Commodity Credit Corporation funds to increase fluid milk use in schools. (Ezra Taft Benson. Cross Fire: The Eight Years with Eisenhower. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Co., Inc. 1962. 627 pp., apps., index.)

1954, August 28. The Agricultural Act of 1954 established flexible price supports, authorized commodity set-asides, and provided wool support payments (Edward L. and Frederick H. Schapsmeier, "Eisenhower and Ezra Taft Benson: Farm Policy in the 1950's," Agricultural History 44:369-378. Oct. 1970.)

1956. The Commodity Credit Corporation Export Credit Sales Program was established. John H. Dean, "Using Our Abundance," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1962, pp. 594-596.

1956, April 2. The Special Milk Program was extended by the Congress and expanded to include nonprofit summary camps, orphanages, and other child-care institutions (70 Stat. 86.)

1956, May 28. The Agricultural Act of 1956 (Soil Bank) included provisions for Federal financial assistance to farmers for converting general cropland into conservation uses. (Wayne D. Rasmussen and Gladys L. Baker, "A Short History of Price Support and Adjustment Legislation and Programs for Agriculture, 1933-65," Agricultural Economics Research 18:69-78. July 1966.)

1958, August 28. The Agricultural Act of 1958, providing for more effective prices, production adjustments, and marketing programs for various agricultural commodities, became law (72 Stat. 988.)

1959, September 21. Legislation was approved authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a food stamp program. (Ross B. Talbot, "Farm Legislation in the 86th Congress," Journal of Farm Economics 43:582-605. Aug. 1961.)

1961, January 21. The President directed the Secretary of Agriculture to expand and improve the program of food distribution to needy people. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Food and Agriculture: A Program for the 1960's. Washington, D.C.: GPO, Mar. 1962. 54 pp.)

1961, March 22. The Feed Grain Act was approved (Arthur J. Thompson, "Farmers as Committees," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. agr., 1962, pp. 557-560.)

1961, May. the President authorized inauguration of an experimental Food Stamp Program and established eight pilot projects. (Howard P. Davis, "USDA Food Distribution has Long History of Special Roles," Agricultural Marketing 8:29-31. May 1963.)

1961, August 8. The Agricultural Act of 1961 was approved. It established programs for the 1962 wheat and feed grain crops, authorized marketing orders for several farm commodities and the Special Milk Program, and extended Public Law 480. (Don F.

Hadwiger and Ross B. Talbot. Pressures and Protests: The Kennedy Farm Program and the Wheat Referendum of 1963. San Francisco, Calif.: Chandler Publishing Co., 1965. 325 pp., index.)

1962. The International Rice Research Institute was established in the Philippine Islands by the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations, and within a few years, it developed rice strains capable of doubling the yield of most local rices in Asia. (Lester R. Brown. Seeds of Change. New York: Praeger Publishers, 1970. 205 pp., index.)

1962. The National School Lunch Act was amended to relate allotment of cash funds to pupil participation, to authorize an appropriation to provide special assistance for lunch programs in needy schools, and to extend the program to American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. (Florence Robin. Their Daily Bread: A Study of the National School Lunch Program. Atlanta, Ga.: McNelley Rudd Printing Service, Inc., Apr. 1968. 135 pp.)

1962, March 15. The Consumers Advisory Council was established by the Council of Economic Advisers as directed by the President in his "Message on Consumers' Protection and Interest Program." (L. B. Fletcher, "Evolving Public Policy Issues in Food Marketing," Journal of Farm Economics 45:1256-1266. Dec. 1963.

1962, September 27. The Food and Agriculture Act of 1962 was approved (76 Stat. 605.)

1962, October 11. The Trade Expansion Act of 1962 was approved. (Irwin R. Hedges, "The Trade Expansion Act," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1964, pp. 379 - 391.)

1963, May 20. The Feed Grain Act of 1963 permitted continuation in 1964-65, with modifications, of previous legislation (77 Stat. 44.)

1963, May 21. Wheat producers rejected a mandatory acreage control plan.

1964, February 17. The United States signed an agreement with Australia and New Zealand to limit the export of beef, veal, and mutton to U.S. markets.

1964, April 11. The Agricultural Act of 1964 was approved, establishing voluntary cotton and wheat programs (78 Stat. 173.)

1964, August 20. The President approved the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, authorizing special programs to combat rural poverty. (President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty. The People Left Behind. A Report by the President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty. Washington, D.C.: GPO, Sept. 1967. 160 pp.)

1964, August 31. The President approved a nationwide Food Stamp Act. (Harold G. Love, "The Reasons Participants Drop Out of the Food Stamp Program: A Case Study and Its Implications," American Journal of Agricultural Economics 52:387-394. Aug. 1970.)

1965. The American Soybean Association Research Foundation was established. (Robert W. Howell, "Golden Beans from China Now Our No. 1 Cash Crop," Yearbook of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. Agr., 1975, pp. 225-236.)

1965. Rural poor numbered 14 million, of whom 4 million were living on farms. Of the rural poor, 11 million were white and 3 million were black. (President's Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty. The People Left Behind. A Report by the President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty. Washington, D.C.: GPO, Sept. 1967. 160 pp.)

1965, February 24. The Rural Community Development Service was established in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Secretary's Memorandum No. 1570. Feb. 24, 1965.)

1965, March 9. The Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 was approved. (Monroe Newman and Eli P. March, "Rural Areas in an Urban Economy," Journal of Farm Economics 51: 1097-1109. Dec. 1969.)

1965, November 3. The Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 was approved with the goal of encouraging farmers to adjust production between various crops. (Orville L. Freeman. World Without Hunger. New York: Frederick A. Praeger, 1968. 190 pp., index.)

1966. The Child Nutrition Act permitted the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help support the school breakfast and dinner programs. (U.S. Department of Agriculture. Agricultural Research Service. Toward The New: A Report on Better Foods and Nutrition From Agricultural Research. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Res. Serv., Agr. Inf. Bull. No. 341. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1970. 60 pp.)

1966, January 25. The President recommended legislation to provide Federal assistance for rural development districts.

1966, September 28. The President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty was established. (President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty. The People Left Behind. A Report by the President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty. Washington, D.C.: GPO, Sept. 1967. 160 pp.)

1969, August 8. The Food and Nutrition Service was established in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (U.S. Congress. House Committee on Appropriations. Hearings on Department of Agriculture Appropriations for 1971. Part 2. 91st Cong., 2d sess. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1970. Pp. 553-554.)

1970, March 12. The National School Lunch Act was amended to provide funds and authority to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the purpose of providing free or reduced-price meals to needy children not formerly reached (84 Stat. 51.)

1970, September 26. The Wheat Research and Promotion Act was approved (84 Stat. 885.)

1970, November 30. The Agricultural Act was passed initiating a cropland set-aside program for producers of wheat, feed grains, and upland cotton. (H. S. Houthakker, "Domestic Farm Policy and International Trade, "American Journal of Agricultural Economics 53:762-766. Dec. 1971.)

1971, January 11. The Food Stamp Act of 1964 was amended to make the program available to more people (84 Stat. 2048.)

1973, August 10. The Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act was approved. (Quentin M. West and others, "Economists and the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act," North Dakota Law Review 50:313-328. Winter 1974.)

1974. The U.S. Sugar Act expired. (Fred Gray, "The Not-So-Sweet Sugar Story." In: The Farm Index. U.S. Dept. Agr., Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1975, Pp. 20-21.)

1976, May 28. The Beef Research and Information Act was approved. It enabled cattle producers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, producer and consumer information, and promotion for improving, maintaining, and developing markets for cattle beef and beef products (90 Stat. 529.)

1976, October 8. the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976 was approved to encourage direct marketing of agricultural commodities from farmers to consumers (90 Stat. 1982.)

1976, October 21. The Homestead Act, the act of May 3, 1891, and many other land laws were repealed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. For the homestead laws affecting Alaska, the repeal was to be effective 10 years later (90 Stat. 2743.)

1977, September 29. The Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 was passed which provided price and income protection for farmers and assured an abundance of food and fiber at reasonable prices to consumers (91 Stat. 913.)

1978, May 15. The Emergency Assistance Act of 1978 was approved providing assistance to wheat, feed grain, and upland cotton producers. (Wayne D. Rasmussen and Gladys L. Baker. Price-Support and Adjustment Programs From 1933 Through 1978: A Short History. Agr. Inf. Bull. No. 424. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ., Stat., Coop. Serv., 1979. 32 pp.)

1978, September 5. The Presidential Commission on World Hunger was established by Executive Order 13078 (43 F.R. 39741.)